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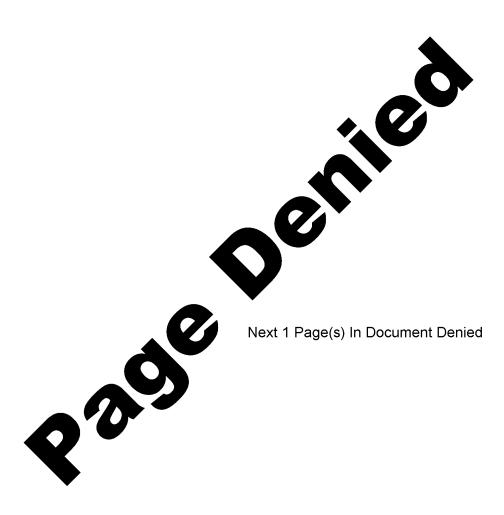
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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

DIRECTOR

25 January 1984

Dear Bill,

Given our choice we would prefer omission of both qualifiers, i.e., special intelligence indicates and sensitive intercepted communications. It seems to us they invite unnecessary disclosure, either when the printed article is leaked or when verbal references to it are too freely made, either inadvertently or deliberately.

That having been said, however, we had settled on the former formulation after discussing several alternatives with Bob Gates to reconcile security interests with the readers' need for some sense of authoritativeness. Thus "special intelligence" has been used routinely in the NID and other CIA publications.

As for the "sensitive intercepted communications" and similar formulations used in the State Department daily summary for the Secretary, Hugh had argued that the phrase serves to warn readers to be careful and, moreover, that the summary gets an extremely limited distribution.

Since receipt of your note, I've had Bob Rich talk further with Bob Gates (who I believe has mentioned the subject again to you) and with Hugh. Hugh isn't persuaded that changing the phraseology in his publication (to conform to the NID) would represent much improvement, but is willing to do so if pressed.

Although I'd be happier if we could use even less revealing language, I understand the need to convey an adequate sense of credibility to the reader and would settle for the term "special intelligence" to cover SIGINT in all the publications.

Classified by NSA/CSSM 123-2 Declassify on: Originating Agency's Determination Required

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I would add that the less specific we can afford to be in respect of dates of information and the like, the better. This would be in line with changes Bob Gates has been discussing with DoD in connection with such data as overall Soviet missile totals, etc.

Sincerely,

LACOLN D. FAURER Lieutenant General, USAF

Mr. William J. Casey The Director of Central Intelligence Washington, DC

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